

AMENDMENT AND STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/497,515

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-33. (canceled).

34. (new): An electrode for a fuel cell, comprising:

a catalyst layer comprising a solid polymer electrolyte, catalyst particles, and first pores;
and

a polymer having numerous second pores therein,

wherein said polymer does not substantially have an ion-exchange function, and

said polymer exists either (i) in a portion of said first pores of said catalyst layer or (ii)
both in a portion of said first pores of said catalyst layer and on a surface of said catalyst layer.

35. (new): The electrode according to claim 34, wherein said polymer comprises
fluorocarbon polymer.

36. (new): The electrode according to claim 35, wherein said polymer does not
substantially contain anything except its polymer material.

37. (new): The electrode according to claim 36, wherein said numerous second pores
are obtained by a phase inversion process.

38. (new): The electrode according to claim 36, wherein said numerous second pores
are substantially formed by only said polymer.

39. (new): The electrode according to claim 35, wherein said numerous second pores
are obtained by a phase inversion process.

40. (new): The electrode according to claim 35, wherein said numerous second pores
are substantially formed by only said polymer.

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41. (new): The electrode according to claim 34, wherein said polymer comprises polyvinylidene fluoride.

42. (new): The electrode according to claim 41, wherein said polymer does not substantially contain anything except its polymer material.

43. (new): The electrode according to claim 42, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

44. (new): The electrode according to claim 41, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

45. (new): The electrode according to claim 41, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

46. (new): The electrode according to claim 34, wherein said polymer does not substantially contain anything except its polymer material.

47. (new): The electrode according to claim 46, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

48. (new): The electrode according to claim 46, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

49. (new): The electrode according to claim 34, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

50. (new): The electrode according to claim 49, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

51. (new): An electrode for a fuel cell, comprising:

a catalyst layer comprising a solid polymer electrolyte, catalyst particles, and first pores;

a gas diffusion layer; and

a polymer having numerous second pores therein,

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wherein said gas diffusion layer contains an electro-conductive porous substrate, said polymer does not substantially have an ion-exchange function, and said polymer exists either (i) in a portion of said first pores of said catalyst layer or (ii) both in a portion of said first pores of said catalyst layer and in an inside portion of said substrate.

52. (new): The electrode according to claim 51, wherein said polymer comprises fluorocarbon polymer.

53. (new): The electrode according to claim 52, wherein said polymer does not substantially contain anything except its polymer material.

54. (new): The electrode according to claim 53, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

55. (new): The electrode according to claim 53, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

56. (new): The electrode according to claim 52, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

57. (new): The electrode according to claim 52, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

58. (new): The electrode according to claim 51, wherein said polymer comprises polyvinylidene fluoride.

59. (new): The electrode according to claim 58, wherein said polymer does not substantially contain anything except its polymer material.

60. (new): The electrode according to claim 59, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

61. (new): The electrode according to claim 58, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

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62. (new): The electrode according to claim 58, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

63. (new): The electrode according to claim 51, wherein said polymer does not substantially contain anything except its polymer material.

64. (new): The electrode according to claim 63, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

65. (new): The electrode according to claim 63, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.

66. (new): The electrode according to claim 51, wherein said numerous second pores are obtained by a phase inversion process.

67. (new): The electrode according to claim 51, wherein said numerous second pores are substantially formed by only said polymer.